

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
26 May 2005 (26.05.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/047944 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G02B 6/12,**
C03C 3/04

Erik [DK/DK]; Abildgaardsvej 117, DK-2830 Virum
(DK). NIELSEN, Lars, Pleth [DK/DK]; Søvangen 36,
DK-3450 Allerød (DK).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2004/052913

(74) Common Representative: NKT RESEARCH & INNO-
VATION A/S; Blokken 84, DK-3460 Birkerød (DK).

(22) International Filing Date:
10 November 2004 (10.11.2004)

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, ME, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
PA 2003 01686 12 November 2003 (12.11.2003) DK

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): NKT RE-
SEARCH & INNOVATION A/S [DK/DK]; Blokken 84,
DK-3460 Birkerød (DK).

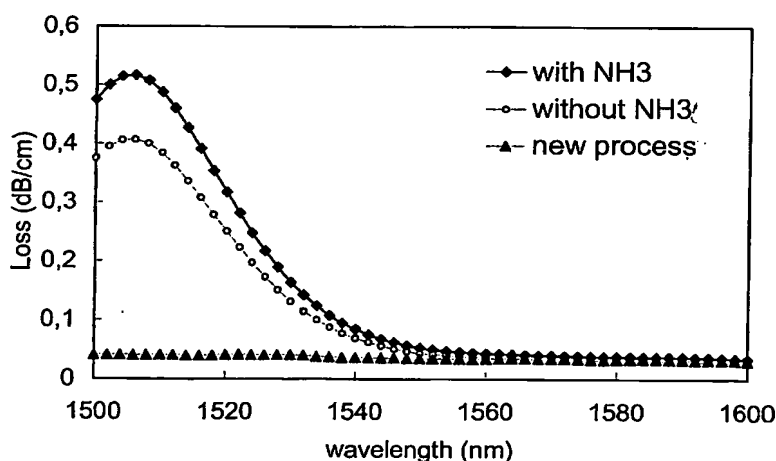
(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): MATTSSON, Kent,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A LOW LOSS SILICON OXYNITRIDE OPTICAL WAVEGUIDE, A METHOD OF ITS MANUFACTURE AND AN OPTICAL DEVICE



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to an optical waveguide for guiding light in a predefined wavelength range, the optical waveguide comprising core and cladding regions for confining light, the core and/or cladding region or regions being formed on a substrate and comprising material of the stoichiometric composition $\text{Si}_2\text{O}_x\text{N}_y\text{X}_z\text{H}_v$. The invention further relates to a method of manufacturing an optical waveguide, an optical waveguide obtainable by the method and an optical device comprising such a waveguide. The object of the present invention is to provide an optical waveguide with low optical loss due to a reduced hydrogen bond-originated absorption. The problem is solved in that X is selected from the group of elements

B, Al, P, S, As, Sb and combinations thereof, and the ratio y/z is larger than 1. This has the advantage that a low optical absorption in the waveguide may be achieved, possibly over a broad wavelength range. Further, a relatively low annealing temperature may be used yielding a relatively low induced strain whereby a low birefringence may be achieved. The optical waveguide may e.g. be manufactured by PECVD, which is ideal for the further processing of low loss waveguides. Waveguides according to the invention show superior transmission characterized with losses below 0.05 dB/cm between 900 nm and 1600 nm. In particular the absorption due to the second overtone of the Si:N-H vibration may be lowered to a value below the detection level. The invention may e.g. be used for the optical communications systems, in particular for branching components (e.g. splitters) and components for wavelength division multiplexing (WDM) systems, e.g. telecommunication systems, fibre-to-the-home, etc.



European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,

ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

- with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.